

C L A I M S

We Claim:

- 1 1. A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a
2 receiving device comprising the steps of:
 - 3 a. transmitting the video stream of images in a first format to the receiving
4 device;
 - 5 b. receiving a request for an enhanced version of a marked portion of the video
6 stream of images from the receiving device; and
 - 7 c. transmitting the marked portion of the video stream of images in a second
8 format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first
9 format.
- 1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of storing the
2 original video stream of images at the receiving device.
- 1 3. The method as claimed in claim 2 further comprising the step of storing the
2 marked portion of the video stream of images to replace a corresponding portion of the
3 original video stream of images.
- 1 4. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of generating the
2 video stream of images and transmitting the video stream of images to the source device.
- 1 5. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the step of generating is performed
2 by a medical test device which is one of the group of an ultrasound, sonogram and
3 echocardiogram device.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the
2 video stream of images at the receiving device.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising the step of marking the
2 marked portion of the video stream of images at the receiving device.

1 8. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the step of displaying includes a
2 fast-forward and rewind function.

1 9. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the step of transmitting the video
2 stream of images and the step of displaying are performed simultaneously such that a received
3 portion of the video stream of images is displayed while a remaining portion of the video
4 stream of images is transmitted.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of adding
2 annotations to the video stream of images.

1 11. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of determining if
2 a user views a particular image within the video stream of images for a predetermined period
3 of time and automatically transmitting the particular image in the second format.

1 12. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein if the request for an enhanced
2 version is received while the step of transmitting the video stream of images is being
3 performed, then the step of transmitting the video stream of images is paused while the step
4 of transmitting the marked portion is performed, and resumed once the step of transmitting
5 the marked portion is completed.

1 13. A transmitting device for transmitting a video stream of images to a receiving
2 device comprising:

- 3 a. a storage device configured for receiving and storing a stream of images; and
4 b. a controller coupled to the storage device and configured for coupling to the
5 receiving device for controlling transmission of the stream of images from the
6 storage device to the receiving device, wherein the stream of images are
7 transmitted to the receiving device in a first format and then a requested
8 portion of the stream of images are transmitted to the receiving device in a
9 second format, and further wherein the second format represents an enhanced
10 version of the first format.

1 14. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 13 further comprising a source
2 device coupled to the storage device for generating the stream of images and transmitting the
3 stream of images to the storage device.

1 15. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 14 wherein the source device is a
2 medical test device which is one of an ultrasound, a sonogram and an echocardiogram.

1 16. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 14 further comprising a network
2 interface circuit coupled to the storage device and to the controller for communicating with
3 the receiving device over a network.

1 17. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 16 wherein the receiving device
2 includes a display for displaying the stream of images and an input device for marking the
3 requested portion of the stream of images.

1 18. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the network is an
2 Internet Protocol network.

1 19. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein received frames within
2 the stream of images are displayed at the receiving device while a remaining portion of the
3 stream of images is transmitted.

1 20. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the receiving device
2 further includes a received storage device for storing the stream of images.

1 21. The transmitting device as claimed in claim 20 wherein the requested portion of
2 the stream of images is stored in the second format and a remaining portion of the stream of
3 images is stored in the first format at the received storage device.

1 22. A system for transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a
2 receiving device comprising:

- 3 a. a source device for generating the video stream of images;
4 b. a transmitting device coupled to the source device to receive and store the
5 video stream of images; and
6 c. a receiving device coupled to the transmitting device to receive the video
7 stream of images in a first format, display the video stream of images for a
8 user to mark one or more sections of interest, transmit a request for an
9 enhanced version of the sections of interest and receive from the transmitting
10 device the sections of interest within the video stream of images in a second
11 format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first
12 format.

1 23. The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the source device is a medical test
2 device which is one of an ultrasound, a sonogram and an echocardiogram.

1 24. The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the receiving device is coupled to
2 the transmitting device through a network.

1 25. The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the receiving device includes a
2 display for displaying the stream of images and an input device for marking the requested
3 portion of the stream of images.

1 26. The system as claimed in claim 25 wherein the receiving device further
2 includes a received storage device for storing the video stream of images.

1 27. The system as claimed in claim 26 wherein the sections of interest within the
2 video stream of images are stored in the second format and a remaining portion of the video
3 stream of images is stored in the first format at the received storage device.

1 28. The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein received frames within the video
2 stream of images are displayed at the receiving device while a remaining portion of the video
3 stream of images is transmitted.

1 29. A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source to a
2 receiving device for display and storage at the receiving device comprising the steps of:
3 a. transmitting the video stream of images in a first format to the receiving
4 device;
5 b. displaying the video stream of images in the first format at the receiving
6 device, allowing a user to mark sections of interest within the video stream of
7 images; and

- 8 c. transmitting the sections of interest to the receiving device in a second format,
9 wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.

1 30. The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising the step of displaying
2 the sections of interest in the second format at the receiving device.

1 31. The method as claimed in claim 30 further comprising the step of storing the
2 sections of interest in the second format and a remaining portion of the video stream of
3 images in the first format at the receiving device.

1 32. The method as claimed in claim 31 wherein the step of transmitting the video
2 stream of images and the step of displaying the video stream of images in the first format are
3 performed simultaneously, such that a received portion of the video stream of images is
4 displayed while a remaining portion of the video stream of images is transmitted.

1 33. The method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the step of displaying includes a
2 fast-forward and rewind function.

1 34. The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising the step of generating
2 the video stream of images and transmitting the video stream of images to the source device.

1 35. The method as claimed in claim 34 wherein the step of generating is performed
2 by a medical test device which is one of a group of an ultrasound, sonogram and
3 echocardiogram device.